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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/623,643	09/06/2000	Gerrit W. Den Besten	PHD 99-001	6287

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EXAMINER

CAO, CHUN

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2115

DATE MAILED: 07/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/623,643

Applicant(s)

DEN BESTEN ET AL.

Examiner

Chun Cao

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 May 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 4 and 7-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 8 and 9 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 4, 7 and 10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: _____.

FINAL REJECTION

1. Claims 4 and 7-10 are presented for examination.
2. It is hereby acknowledged that the following papers have been received and placed of record in the file: Amendment dated 5/30/05.
3. The text of those applicable section of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in the prior Office Action.
4. The rejections are respectfully maintained and reproduced infra for applicant's convenience.
5. Claims 4, 7 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Connell et al. (Connell), US patent no. 5,998,978 in view of Sakaki (Sakaki). US patent no. 6,035,357.

Connell is the references cited in prior office action.

As per claim 4, Connell discloses a mobile data carrier [figs. 3, 4] comprising:

A data processing circuit that includes asynchronously operating logic elements [112, fig. 3; col. 3, lines 10-24]; and

a voltage regulator [308, fig. 3] operably coupled in parallel with the data processing circuit, that is configured to control the power supply voltage applied to the data processing circuit [col. 3, lines 16-19], and

a current source [304, figs. 3, 4] operably coupled in series between the data processing circuit and a power source, that is configured to provide a supply current to the data processing circuit and the voltage regulator [col. 4, lines 8-12; col. 6, lines 8-12].

Connell does not explicitly disclose the data processing circuit includes asynchronously operating logic elements whose signal-processing rate is dependent on a power supply voltage applied to the data processing circuit.

However, Sakaki discloses that a data processing circuit [figures 3A, 3B] includes asynchronously operating logic elements whose signal-processing rate is dependent on a power supply voltage applied to the data processing circuit [col. 3, lines 12-16; col. 5, lines 36-39; col. 8, lines 36-37].

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at time the invention to combine the teachings of Connell and Sakaki because they both disclose an IC card system, the specific teachings of Sakaki stated above would increase the performance and reliability of Connell's system by protecting the IC card overvoltage and overcurrent.

As per claim 7, Connell discloses the current source is configured to provide a current that is substantially controlled by the power source [col. 4, lines 41-51; col. 4, line 63-col. 5, line 3].

As per claim 10, Connell discloses that the current source is configured to provide a current that is controlled by the power source [fig. 4; col. 4, lines 8-12; col. 6, lines 8-12].

Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 8 and 9 are allowed over prior art.
7. Applicant's arguments filed on 5/30/2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

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8. In the remarks, applicants argued in substance that in **Sakaki** discloses a CPU 16 which is a synchronous device; and **Sakaki** does not teach that the data processing circuit includes asynchronously operating logic elements whose signal-processing rate is dependent on a power supply voltage applied to the data processing circuit.

9. The examiner respectfully traverses. The examiner agreed that the CPU 16 is a synchronous device. However, **Sakaki** teaches that the data processing circuit [CPU 16] includes asynchronously operating logic elements [Official Notice is taken that a CPU includes asynchronously operating logic elements (such as AND gates, OR gates, inverters etc.) are well known in the computer art] whose signal-processing rate is dependent on a power supply voltage applied to the data processing circuit [col. 3, lines 12-16; col. 5, lines 36-39; col. 8, lines 36-37]. Also, **Connell** discloses that a data processing circuit that includes asynchronously operating logic elements [112, fig. 3; col. 3, lines 10-24].

Also see rejection above.

Conclusion

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory

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period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Chun Cao whose telephone number is 571-272-3664. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 7:30 am-4:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Thomas C. Lee can be reached on 571-272-3667. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is 571-272-2100.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chun Cao', is positioned above the printed name.

Chun Cao

July 27, 2005